

Fire Safety Message

In 2007, there were 880 fire incidents in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that involved chimneys, fireplaces, and woodstoves, these fires were responsible for 1 civilian death, 3 civilian injuries, 13 firefighter injuries, and resulted in \$3.3 million dollars in property losses. These incidents make up 29% of all fires linked to heating systems.

Before purchasing a wood or coal burning stove be sure it has been approved by Underwriter's Laboratory or another recognized testing

laboratory. Installation of wood or coal stoves requires a building permit prior to installation. They must be inspected by the local building inspector prior to their initial use. Have your chimney and flue inspected by a qualified mason or chimney sweep before each heating season. Most chimney fires occur due to a build-up of creosote, a tarry by-product of burning wood.

Safety Tips:

Ashes from the stove or fireplace should be shoveled into a metal receptacle with a lid,

placed outside away from any buildings.

Do not place ashes into a paper bag or cardboard box, ashes and embers can stay hot for days and ignite combustibles.

Install and maintain smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, it is the law.

Test alarms regularly and change the batteries when we change the clocks.

Donald R. Parsons
Fire Prevention Officer

***"Test** alarms regularly and change the batteries when we change the clocks."*

Westford Police Project Lifesaver

The Westford Police Department is initiating Project Lifesaver in conjunction with the Council on Aging and several residents in Town.

For those not familiar with this, it is a wrist watch type device that is fitted on a person and transmits a signal to a device controlled by the Police Department. It assists the Police in finding a person who has wandered off.

This is beneficial for

families who have autistic children, for the elderly or for families who have someone with a medical condition who tends to unknowingly wander off.

The Police Department is looking for Donations to get the program off the ground and running.

Checks can be made out to Project Lifesaver, care of the Westford Police Department, 53 Main Street, Westford, MA 01886

We have applied for grants to offset the cost of this project.

Anyone wanting more information can contact Capt. Victor Neal at 978.692.2161 or vneal@westfordma.gov or visit the Project Lifesaver website at www.projectlifesaver.org

Start up costs run between \$6,500.00 and \$7,500.00.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Capt. Victor Neal at 978.692.2161 or vneal@westfordma.gov

Water Department Ultimate Green Home & Lawn

Tuesday, 9/16/08,
7:00pm

Roudenbush Community
Center, 65 Main Street

Pre-register at
www.roudenbush.org

Learn everything you
need to know about
making your home
healthier & more energy
efficient.

Cut your heating, cooling
& energy bills by 30 –
50%!

Hear about exciting solar
solutions.

Grow a very low
maintenance, lush green
lawn! Plus lawn tips used
by the RED SOX at
Fenway Park.

Presented by Jackson
Madnick, environmental
expert & recipient of the
AltWheels 2007 "Regional
(Environmental) Hero
Award" & Green Energy
consultant Bart Berkowitz
of "Save Your Energy"

Westford Public Schools Fuel for Friends

Last year Bill Olsen,
School Superintendent,
initiated a "Fuel for
Friends" donation drive in
our school system.

Through his efforts,
approximately \$1,500 was
collected from our school
staff which was donated to
the Fuel Assistance
Program administered by
Joanne Sheehan at the
Senior Center.

This year Superintendent
Olsen will begin the
donation drive in early
October with a goal of
raising \$2,000.

GIS Department: Where is Your House Number?

*"It is recommended that
owners post their
address using reflective
numbers, at least 3
inches tall that are
visible from the street."*

Has a delivery person
ever had trouble finding
your house? Imagine if it
were an EMT or public
safety official.

Minutes spent looking for
a house number can be
the difference between life
and death in some
instances.

Properly displaying your
house number is critical to
ensuring that your home
can be quickly accessed
during emergency
situations.

It is recommended that
owners post their address
using reflective numbers,
at least 3 inches tall that
are visible from the street.

Please go to
www.westfordma.gov/gis
to find out more
information.

